Convergence of technologies to enhance productivity

596. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:
SHRI VIAY J. DARDA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that in an all India Seminar held in Nagpur during January, 2007, a general consensus emerged stressing upon the convergence of the information computer and electronic technologies with farming technology to empower the farmers to enhance their productivity; and

(b) if so, whether the Institutes of Agriculture Research would be advised to evolve simple modalities so that grassroot farmers could be apprised and motivated to adopt technologies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) No, Sir. No such seminar was organized in Nagpur during January, 2007 by the Ministry of Agriculture.

(b) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has taken up a programme for providing electronic linkage to Krishi Vigyan Kendras to facilitate availability of agricultural technology to the farmers.

Mechanism for protection against losses from bird flu

597. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the outbreak of bird flu has again been noticed in the country;

(b) if so, whether any steps have been taken to contain its spread into various parts of the country and any compensation mechanism has been devised to protect the farmers from the imminent losses;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) Yes, Sir. Government has notified the outbreak of Avian Influenza (H5N1) in Manipur on 25th July, 2007.

(b) to (d) Control and containment measures were initiated immediately to stamp out and prevent the spread of the disease of poultry. The details are given in the Statement.

Statement

Measures taken to prevent the spread of the disease

The following measures were taken in Manipur to prevent the spread of Avian Influenza:

1. Demarcation of infected and surveillance areas was carried out in accordance with the Action Plan. An area of 0-5 kms. was designated as the Infected Zone and a further area of 5-10 kms. was designated as the Surveillance Zone.